

REMARKS

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Matsueda et al. (2002/0003521). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because a *prima facie* case of anticipation has not been made. Matsueda never teaches (or suggests) any more than a single driving device to drive the data signal lines, and the Examiner has clearly misread the reference by asserting the presence of plural driving devices.

For example, the Examiner asserts that elements 211-216, 271-276, 321-325, and 341-345 from Matsueda are all individual “driving devices” that work together simultaneously to increase the driving capability. This assertion, however, is clearly erroneous, and directly contradicted by the unambiguous disclosure of Matsueda. Elements 211-216 and 271-276 in Matsueda are clearly described as being only “latching elements,” which are not considered by those of ordinary skill in the art to operate as a “driving device.” Similarly, elements 321-325 and 341-345 are clearly labeled by Matsueda as “switches” only, which are also not considered in the art to be equivalent to driving devices. The Examiner does not even cite to one teaching (or suggestion) from Matsueda that supports this clear misrepresentation of the elements from the reference. In fact, Matsueda clearly contradicts the Examiner’s assertions that the latches and switches being considered “driving devices.”

As expressly described in paragraph [0090] of Matsueda, only one single driving circuit is shown in Fig. 1, and this single circuit includes all of the shift register 21, the latching device 22, the data conversion circuit 23, the DAC 3, and the selective circuit 4 within it. The latching device 22, which is only one part of the single driving circuit,

includes within it the first latching circuit 221 and a second latching circuit 222, which themselves then comprise the cited latching elements 211-216 and 271-276 respectively. In other words, the latching elements mislabeled by the Examiner to be “driving devices” are themselves only individual components of two separate latching circuits (221, 222) that comprise a single latching device (22), which itself is only one small portion of the one single driving circuit device. None of the drawings cited by the Examiner from Matsueda ever show more than this single driving circuit/device operating on the data signal lines. Accordingly, the rejection is respectfully traversed for at least these reasons.

The Examiner’s misinterpretation of the reference is further demonstrated by the citation to paragraphs “92-93, 132-133 and 163” from Matsueda, as being allegedly analogous to the use of switch signals that are featured in claim 1 of the present invention. All of the “switch signals” that are described in these cited paragraphs though, reference to only the same latching elements and switches which the Examiner mistakenly mischaracterizes as “driving devices.” Claim 1 of the present invention clearly recites the switches and driving devices as separate and distinct elements from one another. A same switch/latch from Matsueda cannot be both a driving device and also the switch that controls the number of such driving devices. Once again, Matsueda has been clearly misinterpreted.

Fig. 10 of Matsueda, which is also cited by the Examiner, further highlights this same error in interpreting the reference. Fig. 10 shows only a single signal line driver 708 to drive the lines 902. Within this single driver 708, the drawing further illustrates that all of the latching elements (as comprising the first and second latching circuits 221 and 222

respectively) are contained within this single driver. Once again, Matsueda clearly contradicts the interpretation asserted by the Examiner, and the rejection of claim 1 based on this reference must therefore be withdrawn for at least these reasons as well.

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsueda in view of Ichikawa et al. (U.S. 5,028,916). Applicants therefore respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the reasons discussed above in traversing the rejection of independent claim 1 based upon Matsueda only. Claim 4 depends from independent claim 1, and therefore includes all of the features of the base claim, plus additional features. Matsueda simply does not teach or suggest the present invention for at least the reasons discussed above. The proposed combination of Ichikawa with Matsueda fails to overcome these deficiencies. The Examiner relies upon Ichikawa only for indicating an integrated wiring part, but not for teaching or suggesting that the single drivers shown by Matsueda can somehow also be plural drivers working simultaneously. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 4 is also respectfully traversed, and must be withdrawn.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application, including claims 1 and 4, is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

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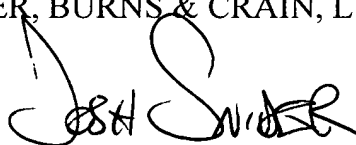
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Respectfully submitted,

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